

Date: Thu, 4 Nov 93 04:30:41 PST
From: Ham-Homebrew Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Homebrew-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Homebrew@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Homebrew Digest V93 #93
To: Ham-Homebrew

Ham-Homebrew Digest Thu, 4 Nov 93 Volume 93 : Issue 93

Today's Topics:

 CW Crystals-W0LPS still in business
 Homebrew kit source
 Junk in the UK
 RADIO EQUIPMENT REQUEST
 Rewinding transformers
 setting up a work bench. (2 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Homebrew@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Homebrew-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Homebrew Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-homebrew".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 2 Nov 93 20:17:06 GMT
From: news.service.uci.edu!paris.ics.uci.edu!csulb.edu!library.ucla.edu!
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!darwin.sura.net!newsserver.jvnc.net!a3bee2.radnet.com!
cyphyn!randy@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: CW Crystals-W0LPS still in business
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

Altho it was a 4 month wait, I finally got my crystals.

He was simply swamped with orders and as he is not a big huge company
like ICM or JAN...he got behind in his work.

Anyone who has placed an order and is still waiting..hang in there!

--

Randy KA1UNW

If you get a shock while

servicing your equipment, "Works for me!"
randy@192.153.4.200 DON'T JUMP! -Peter Keyes
You might break an expensive tube!

Date: Wed, 3 Nov 1993 20:22:32 GMT
From: pacbell.com!amdahl!amd!netcomsv!pegasus!sherlock!rhair@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Homebrew kit source
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Nov1.154901.17367@sarah.albany.edu> jfd43@csc.albany.edu (J Dugan) writes:

> Received today a new flier from JDR Microdevices
> 2233 Samaritan Drive
> San Jose, CA , 95124
> Tel. 408-599-1200
>
> In the "Components " flier, pp 38-40 there are several low-kost kits
> which may be of interest to readers of this newsgroup ; transmitters for
> 20,40 and 80m cw (about 1 watt out) at \$ 29.95; receivers for same at
> \$ 29.95. There is also a 2m transceiver listed at 149.95, with a case
>
// Buzzzzz...zzz (Texas Chainsaw with a break for Lone Star beer)
>

Wow, That's in my "Backyard"!!
oops that number is not in service... Try (408)559-1200 for catalogs
(408)280-7144 for retail

Richard Hair, KD6UMA
CIM + Info Technology + ideas = Small Business Ad-ventures.
Opinions/expressions are !(others).

Date: Wed, 3 Nov 1993 10:59:35 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!sdd.hp.com!apollo.hp.com!hpwin052!hpqmoea!
dstock@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Junk in the UK
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

Components and junk:

John Birkett, the strait lincoln

Instruments, military radios, bits tools:

Anchor surplus by nottingham cattle market, and also located
near ripley derbyshire (Visit both, often very different stuff/prices)

Test equipment (pricy) components:

M&B radio underneath leeds city station.

Test equipment (pricy):

John's Radio A58, birkenshaw nr Bradford

We've got nothing in Scotland, I have to venture south for good junk.
G3R00 und the Dover bunch head north. Rallies in England are better than
any N of the border, the midlands seems to be a happy hunting ground.
Pickett's lock is supposed to be good.

Hope this helps

David GM4ZNX

Date: Wed, 3 Nov 1993 01:11:30 GMT
From: swrinde!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!news.service.uci.edu!ttinews!avatar!
sorgatz@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: RADIO EQUIPMENT REQUEST
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

Don't do it! These people broadcast on 40m!

-Avatar-> (aka: Erik K. Sorgatz) KB6LUY +-----+
TTI(es@soldev.tti.com)or: sorgatz@avatar.tti.com *Government produces NOTHING! *
3100 Ocean Park Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405 +-----+
(OPINIONS EXPRESSED DO NOT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF CITICORP OR ITS MANAGEMENT!)

Date: Wed, 3 Nov 1993 19:13:37 GMT
From: utcsri!utnut!torn!csd.unb.ca!garfield.csd.unbsj.ca!robert@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Rewinding transformers
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

Hi,

I am curious to know if anybody has successfully managed to rewind an old
TV transformer for a different voltage. I decided to take on the chore, but
so far have met with many difficulties. The transformer was encased in some
copper, but I managed to get through it. Next step was taking off most of

[illegible]

Thanks

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=====
Robert Ford  (VE1RKF)
robert@unbsj.ca
=====
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In article <1993Nov1.160735.2109@hemlock.cray.com> dadams@cray.com writes:
>
>I think I need to build a workbench down stairs as one of my first projects.
>Any suggestions as far as what to think ahead about design wise? I intend
>to buy some cheap lumber at Knox or Menards etc. They have a workbench
>kit based on 2x4's. Also shelve frames etc.

Home Depot sells a workbench based on 2x6 construction for \$40. I've built two, the latest last Monday. They're sturdy, come pre-cut and pre-drilled, and with all the necessary assembly screws. It'll comfortably support a small block Chevy engine, so it does a fine job with amateur boat anchors. All you need to make it a great electronics bench is to glue down a fiberboard top to get a smooth work surface.

Or you can go with a couple of short filing cabinets and a solid core door. I've done that too. The key is to get the working surface to a height of 38-40 inches so you can comfortably work standing or sitting on a stool.

If you work on boat anchors a lot, look at getting one of the roll around mechanic's tool box *bottoms*. With a rubber mat on top, it makes a fine place to set that heavy radio, and allows you easy access to all sides of it.

>(I probably ought to have something to clip an anti static wrist strap
>to for one.)

You should get some computer room anti-static carpet for the benchtop. This stuff is often free in small quantities from the carpet house. This can serve two purposes, it'll prevent marring the faces of equipment that you're working on, and it forms a convenient static mat, just clip your wrist strap to it. Don't glue it down, there are times when you'll prefer to work on the bare benchtop. You're not looking for a connection to Earth, all your anti-static station is supposed to do is to establish a zone of common potential. That can imply a connection to the third wire of the power system so your test equipment will be at the same potential, but a low impedance Earth ground is not wanted.

>I think I want to place some rugged shelves above the workbench to
>place (possibly heavy) test equipment, parts, reference books, etc.
>(The scope I just got is heavy, and I don't want to move it around much.
>I would like to be able to set it on the shelf and just use it there
>most of the time. I suppose there will be plenty of times when the piece
>of work is bigger and heavier than the scope. Hmm, maybe I could put
>wheels on the workbench? This would let me move it around downstairs,
>but I would still need to remove it if I want to take it out to the
>garage etc.)

I prefer to mount my scopes, spectrum analysers, and communications monitors on roll around scope carts. I can then drag out just what I need for a particular task. Cluttering the back of your bench with a bunch of fixed test equipment results in the bench being covered by a slew of dangling test leads with the one you need at the moment about an inch too short. Do mount a heavy 12 volt supply on the bench,

and a variable lab supply. You'll need those all the time. Both should have settable current limiting.

>The basement has tile floor on cement. I don't think that would be
>too conducive to static. Is there anything else I ought to think of
>this way?

The basement tile is likely better than non-conductive carpet, but you can still have static problems from your clothing. Wear cotton rather than synthetics, and use that wrist strap to the conductive pad the equipment is resting on. The dangers of static are somewhat overblown in most cases. If you're working with unterminated MOSFETS, then static precautions are wise, but most equipment won't be bothered by static as long as the sensitive devices are terminated in the circuit.

>I wonder if I should try to have some strong ground material there.
>I can't really drive a copper pole into the ground there, but I could
>have some iron pipes to hang things on and I could attach test equipment
>to these with bradded metal strips, and attach these to the main water pipe
>or sewer pipe? I don't know if this is useful. If I get HF equipment installed
>there and an antenna connection anywhere near it might prevent some lightening
>damage if the lightening strike is not to close.

If we assume this is a workbench and not an operating position, then ground concerns should be limited to *safety* grounds. The third wire ground of the equipment should be sufficient for this. Your bench power strips should be fed by GFI breakers, and you may want a 1:1 isolation transformer for devices under test. You definitely want a "panic" switch within reach that will allow you to disconnect power quickly in case of a problem. You'll be working on equipment with exposed dangerous voltages. Great care must be taken to assure you don't get zapped. I like to have a separate power strip for my test equipment and for equipment under test. The latter has a permanently wired red lightbulb. I can tell at a glance whether there is power to the equipment. A single switch can turn this strip on and off. I use that rather than pulling the plug again and again while working. Note, you can get exciting results by touching a grounded tip soldering iron to a circuit that is powered. :-(

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	"If 10% is good enough	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	for Jesus, it's good	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	enough for Uncle Sam."	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-Ray Stevens	

Date: Wed, 3 Nov 1993 03:56:16 GMT
From: munnari.oz.au!bruce.cs.monash.edu.au!trlluna!titan!pcies4.trl.OZ.AU!
drew@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: setting up a work bench.
To: ham-homebrew@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Nov1.160735.2109@hemlock.cray.com> dadams@cray.com (David Adams)
writes:

>From: dadams@cray.com (David Adams)
>Subject: setting up a work bench.
>Date: 1 Nov 93 16:07:35 CST

>
>I think I need to build a workbench down stairs as one of my first projects.
>Any suggestions as far as what to think ahead about design wise? I intend
>to buy some cheap lumber at Knox or Menards etc. They have a workbench
>kit based on 2x4's. Also shelve frames etc.

>
If I get HF equipment
installed >there and an antenna connection anywhere near it might prevent
some lightening >damage if the lightening strike is not to close.

>
>Any other suggestions about where to place things?

>
>Sourdough and Ham KG0IO/AE | | | -----
> | | | | | | obten comida,
>--David C. Adams dadams@cray.com | | | | | | y sal de aqui!
> Statistician _____/
> Cray Research Inc. (_____)
>

. . :.

Hello David. Good luck with your new work bench. I spent over 10 years of
my working life at the electronics work-bench- so I reckon I'm qualified
to comment on this one.

Pay close attention to the height- remember that you will be spending many
happy hours (hopefully) there- nobody wants back problems in middle-life. If
you are going to use a lab type stool, make it so that you can get your legs
under the bench.

Keep in mind that fluorescent tube lighting can cause radio noise, and
interfere with microvolt measurements, so it's a good idea to have an
ordinary incandescent (filament) lamp on a goose-neck so that you can get
plenty of noise-free light right onto the job.

Have all your most often needed tools in plain view on a shadow or peg-board (few things are more time-wasting or frustrating than scratching around in a drawer full of bits 'n pieces looking for a blade screw-driver!), and make it a rule that other persons in your house must always put tools back where they borrowed 'em from (fat chance!).

Arrange plenty of ac power points along the back and front of the work bench. If you can afford it, have them isolated via a 1:1 transformer of suitable kVA rating- or use a core-balance relay- good insurance.

Satic electricity should not be a problem in a basement set-up. Have a rubber-backed mat to stand on when working with high voltages.

73, Drew,
VK3XU.

End of Ham-Homebrew Digest V93 #93

